

In an array of ways, families and folk who attend can share an educational and warm Puerto Rican influenced experience. During the festivities, Puerto Rican ethnic heritage is put on display. Relics, traditional instruments, drawings, paintings, and a variety of other items representative of Puerto Rican culture fill the East Chicago library. Many talented individuals find themselves performing for these festivities through music and dance. Each year, people reminisce about native regalia, delectable food, stylistic art, and the notorious island coqui, a tiny frog known throughout the island of Puerto Rico for its relentless chirping. It is an educational experience the whole family can enjoy. People are left with memories and knowledge about the culture, heritage, and diverse values of the Puerto Rico.

For the past twenty-nine years, La Presencia Puertorriqueña has brought together thousands, including an assortment of local sponsors, business and civic leaders, politicians, non-profit organizations, and people of a variety of heritages to appreciate the Puerto Rican presence in Northwest Indiana and come together.

Madam Speaker, at this time, let us pay tribute to the Puerto Rican people and their influence in the Northwest Indiana area. As we celebrate the welcoming of Puerto Rico as a commonwealth, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in honoring Puerto Rican contributions and culture in the Northwest Indiana area. Their efforts in the community to educate and serve the people are to be commended.

HONORING FALLEN MARINE  
LANCE CPL. GARRETT GAMBLE

**HON. PETE OLSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 27, 2010*

Mr. OLSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Lance Cpl. Garrett Gamble. Garrett died in the Helmand province, Afghanistan on March 11th, 2010.

In honor of Garrett's life and service, I submit the following poem, penned by Albert Cafrey Caswell.

GARRETT'S GIFT

Garrett's!  
Garrett's gift!  
So Brilliant, and Bright!  
So Magnificent, this light!  
So all of this!  
So Brave, This Light!  
As That Last Full Measure . . .  
Was but Garrett's fine gift, this night!  
A United States Marine!  
Who upon battlefields of honor, was seen!  
Seen . . . Marching, into that valley of death. . .  
With no regrets!  
As shone, his most brilliant sheen! His quest!  
As he took, all of those most courageous steps!  
But worn upon his fine chest, all in courage's crest!  
Giving all, until none lie left!  
For all of his most beloved Brothers In Arms, to bless!  
All in a Hero's quest, all To Be The Best!  
As a Freedom Fighter, no less!  
For such lights come, only from one's soul so bright!

To but vanquish the darkness, and bring The Light!

All in what you have done, all in your short life. . . !

A Mother cries, as her fine son has died . . . as she asks why?

Fine comfort! One day up in Heaven, he will be by your side!

Thy Will Be Done!

For you Garrett my son, are but the Brightest of All Ones!

Because, moments are all we have!

To Grab Hearts, To Make Difference . . . To Heaven Rise!

All in your most magnificent shades of green! You United States Marine . . .

And when there comes a gentle rain, all across Sugar Land. . .

Our Lord's tears will remain, with your Mother to ease pain!

For Heaven has just gotten stronger, as a new Marine belongs there!

And as the tears roll down our cheeks, remember what brilliance can be!

And remember all of this, and remember Garrett's Gift!

Amen!

IN HONOR OF THE DONATION OF  
JOSEPH SCHIPRETT TO THE  
LONSDALE PUBLIC LIBRARY

**HON. JOHN KLINE**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 27, 2010*

Mr. KLINE of Minnesota. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the generosity of a benevolent donation to benefit the community of Lonsdale, Minnesota.

The Lonsdale public library is now home to a text enlarger that returns the gift of reading to those whose eyes aren't as sharp as they once were. Estimated to cost \$1,800, this gift was made possible by Joseph Schiprett, a Lonsdale resident. Joseph purchased the machine for his wife who was losing her eyesight due to Diabetes. Helen, who never lost her love for reading, passed away in 2007, at which time Joseph shared this gift with the entire Lonsdale community.

As the Senior Republican on the Education and Labor Committee, I commend Mr. Schiprett for his selfless donation and investment in the continuing education of the Lonsdale community.

HONORING DAVE SOLEM

**HON. GREG WALDEN**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 27, 2010*

Mr. WALDEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to share with you the deep appreciation that I and the people of the Klamath Basin hold for Dave Solem, the manager of the Klamath Irrigation District.

Those who know Dave admire his considerable knowledge, skill, and leadership abilities. You can always rely on Dave to have the informed perspective and good judgment to find solutions that make a difference.

It is with mixed emotions that I join my fellow Oregonians in bidding Dave farewell as he

leaves the Klamath Basin for a new career. After 28 years of managing the Klamath Irrigation District, Dave is leaving to become the general manager of the South Columbia Basin Irrigation District in Pasco, Washington. Dave's departure is a great loss for those of us who hold Klamath Basin agriculture close to our hearts.

Madam Speaker, you may be familiar with the vast agricultural bounty of the Klamath Basin. Known worldwide for its superior food and forage crops, the success of the basin depends on the conservation and delivery of water. Dave's contributions to irrigated agriculture have been unmatched.

As the general manager of the Klamath Irrigation District, Dave earned a stellar reputation as a leader, organizer, and team player, overseeing all aspects of operation and maintenance of a complex irrigation and drainage system. The Klamath Irrigation District is a major enterprise consisting of irrigation and drainage systems that span 400 miles in length.

Dave, a professional in every sense of the word, managed major water projects during his tenure, including the \$14 million A-Canal Fish Screen and Headworks Construction, the \$900,000 A-Canal Tunnel Invert Replacement, the \$700,000 Miller Hill Pumping Plant Replacement, and the \$350,000 Adams Siphon Construction.

Madam Speaker, Dave knows the value of water and has spent a career managing that precious resource for all uses. Klamath Irrigation District, under Dave's leadership, has been committed to ongoing efforts to conserve water, including several miles of canal piping, the automated telemetric control system of all of the head gates and major canals, and, most recently, the initiation of a GIS mapping and monitoring system for the district.

Dave has served as director of the Klamath Water Users Association, including two terms as president. He was frequently the voice of irrigated agriculture in state and federal forums. He distinguished himself in his time at the Klamath Water Users Association by receiving their Leadership Award three times, and was praised for the strong roles he took in the Klamath River Fisheries Task Force and his participation in addressing issues related to water supply, water quality, herbicide application, tribal trust, the environment, and electric power.

Dave is no stranger to Congress, as he has made frequent trips to Washington, D.C. to meet with members of Congress, Senators, and staff members as well as testify in hearings. He has met with high level agency and administration officials to help them understand that intricacies of water in the Klamath Basin.

I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing Dave and his wife, Julie, Godspeed as they pursue new horizons. Dave will be sorely missed in the Klamath Basin, as he is a man of extraordinary character and honesty who has served the irrigators in the Klamath Reclamation Project exceptionally well.

Dave may be leaving the area, but the results of his great work will remain, and he will always be our friend.